

NATIONAL ACADEMY OF SCIENCES
NATIONAL RESEARCH COUNCIL
OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

SPACE SCIENCE BOARD

October 6, 1959

Dr. Joshua Lederberg
Genetics Department
School of Medicine
Stanford University
Palo Alto, California

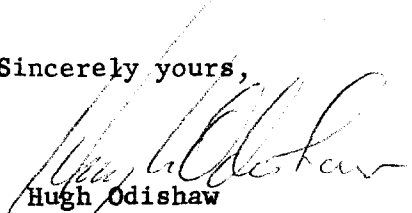
Dear Dr. Lederberg:

I have a copy of your letter of September 29 to Dr. Berkner on the question of the man-in-space program. While sharing your concern deeply, I also feel that the topic is far from being a simple one, involving some very powerful forces, one or two of which must perhaps be contended with as legitimate. For such reasons, it might be useful to have a small discussion (involving, say, you, Berkner, Hartline, Urey, and Rossi) before a general Board discussion. It might also be useful to have a discussion after this preliminary meeting of the proposed group with Dr. Dryden of NASA prior to raising the question within the Board.

As to your postscript: we have raised the question of a session on exobiology at the COSPAR January symposium. I should hear very soon from Van de Hulst and will get in touch with you promptly. I believe that such a session has a very good chance of being included and hope that you can tentatively plan to participate in it.

With kind regards,

Sincerely yours,


Hugh Odishaw
Executive Director

cc: Dr. Berkner
Dr. Hartline